



Kent County Public Schools

Growing a Community of Leaders

Grade 6 students visit the Sassafras Environmental Education Center to learn about the geology, ecology and history of the Delmarva Peninsula. By paddling in canoes in the Sassafras River they access areas along the river where they can make observations of the land area surrounding the river, the streams that connect with it and how people utilize the resources the river provides.



Through a grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources students plant trees that will serve as a riparian buffer next to a farm field. The trees will absorb excess nutrients from the soil and reduce sediment entering the river.



Students also learn Best Management Practices in farming and gardening. They study soil health, companion planting for nutrients, buffers, and attracting pollinators. The students, starting in the fourth grade through the summer program, plant the seeds, weed, pick insects, cultivate, water and harvest. The vegetables are taken to the local food pantry.



<http://www.kent.k12.md.us/index.php/home>

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